

House Republican Press Release

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Scribner Opposes Budget Package



Brookfield Legislator Notes Excessive Taxing and Massive Spending Jump

HARTFORD- Representative David Scribner (R-Brookfield) today voted against the biennial state budget document that came before the House of Representatives. “This is not a budget to be proud of,” said Representative Scribner. “Connecticut residents have a great deal to be disappointed in today. They expected leadership from those in Hartford, and instead the Democratic majority mugged them. There was absolutely no attempt to control spending, and taxes are going up in Connecticut, which is already the highest -taxed state per capita in the United States.

Scribner noted that the roughly \$30 billion budget, which passed the House, doesn’t contain a single penny of net spending cuts. It increases spending by 8.9% in the first year of the biennium, and blows through the Constitutional Spending Cap by \$110 million in each of the two years. New taxes, including those on nursing homes, petroleum gross earnings, and estates, which are retroactive, total \$300 million.

“I think the priorities of Connecticut’s legislative Democrats are pretty clear: they think no one, including dead people, are paying their fair share,” said Representative Scribner, who serves on the Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee. “They believe small business and the average taxpayer should bear an even heavier burden because the legislature has no fiscal discipline.”

Representative Scribner also pointed out that the budget also spends close to \$650 million of the \$700 million surplus, reserving \$18 million as a slush fund.

“Connecticut residents work 123 days out of the year just to pay taxes,” said Representative Scribner. “Tax Freedom Day, which is the day taxpayers start keeping what they ear, is already as late as May 3rd, and this will push it out even further.”

The biennial budget covers Fiscal 2006-2007, and now heads to the state Senate for approval there.